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# Nazi hunting — with guidance from the KGB

In its publicized campaign to run down Nazi war criminals, who lied their way into the United States, the Department of Justice has apparently not been above fraternal collaboration with the KGB. Evidence is accumulating that this devil's bargain — between federal prosecutors and Soviet secret police — may have produced more than one horrible miscarriage of justice.

A pending case is that of John Demjanjuk, 63-year-old worker at the Ford Motor Co. plant outside Cleveland. Stripped of his citizenship, his reputation, his savings, Mr. Demjanjuk faces deportation to Israel for war crimes against European Jews.

According to the Office of Special Investigations at Justice, Mr. Demjanjuk was known at the Treblinka death camp as "Ivan the Terrible," the guard who personally operated the gas chambers. If true, and proven, Mr. Demjanjuk deserves what is coming.

According to his attorney, John J. Gill, however, with whom this writer spoke Monday, Mr. Demjanjuk was a Ukrainian soldier, wounded and captured by the Germans in the Crimea and forced into a labor gang building barracks for construction workers. He was never at Treblinka, Mr. Gill contends. The "eyewitnesses" who identified him as Ivan the Terrible did so from a photostat of a Treblinka I.D. card that appears a patent forgery produced for U.S. courts by the KGB. One official expert on Nazi records, who has seen hundreds of documents from Treblinka, claims never to have seen one similar to that produced from the official records of the

U.S.S.R. Mr. Demjanjuk's hearing, in two months, should bring the national press.

What causes concern over the Demjanjuk case is not only the pivotal supporting role of the KGB; it is the less-than-unblemished record of the Nazi-hunting OSI.

One recalls, for example, OSI's airtight case against Frank Walus, said to be the notorious Gestapo trooper who was the beast of Kielce, Poland. According to a

dozen "eyewitnesses," produced by the OSI here and in Israel, Mr. Walus took a personal hand in atrocities committed against Jewish men, women and children in his hometown in Poland. Stripped of his savings and citizenship, Mr. Walus was fingered personally as a war criminal by famed Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal; was the target of a press witchhunt... "Nazi Jew Killer Living on SW Side," screamed one headline in the *Chicago Daily News*; was subjected to the almost un-American courtroom behavior of federal Judge Julius Hoffman.

Convicted of war crimes, Mr. Walus eventually saw his case quietly thrown out — after six years — when his attorney, traveling to Germany, proved: (a) At age 17, Frank Walus had been taken from Poland to Germany as a farm laborer. (b) That he had never been back to Poland during the war. (c) That at 5 feet 4 inches he was 2 inches too short for the Gestapo. (d) That, as a Pole, he did not even qualify for the all-German elite SS unit to which he was supposed to belong. (e) That the eyewitnesses remembered him as "Frank Walus," even though Mr. Walus, who was born Franciszek, did not change his first name to

Frank until he arrived in the United States.

Two months ago, New Jersey federal Judge Dickinson Debevoise threw out another of the OSI's cases, this one against 67-year-old Juozas Kungya, a naturalized citizen who had been a Lithuanian resistance fighter against the Nazis. Soviet witnesses upon whom OSI relied to portray Mr. Kungya as a war criminal, were, the judge declared, themselves potential war criminals under the control of the KGB, whose testimony had been "prepared" by the KGB.

According to veteran Washington journalist Warren Rogers, there have been other cases where Justice was provided with KGB fabrications and forgeries, to destroy staunch anti-communist

emigres from Eastern Europe by smearing them as war criminals:

"Two famous cases that never went anywhere involved the Ukrainian dissident hero Valentyn Moroz, now in U.S. asylum after long imprisonment and torture in the Soviet Union, and George Shimko, another Ukrainian refugee who became a member of the Canadian parliament. At the time the KGB said they were war criminals, Moroz was 11 years old and Shimko was 8."

From *Izvestia* of last February, we know the Soviet motivation in having "collaborated" with Justice against Mr. Jungya et al.

"The question is not one of vengeance, because our people were never vengeful," *Izvestia* quoted a Soviet official, explaining why "evidence and material concerning 140 war criminals" was provided to "organs of justice of the U.S.A."

"The purpose of those who search out former Nazis, traitors and persons who have committed war crimes is for the defense of our state interest and for justice. The main purpose is for the state interest... (Emphasis added).

If incriminating evidence acquired by FBI agents before an

exact warrant has been obtained is automatically "tainted," why is not any evidence produced by the Soviet KGB against naturalized American citizens who are sworn enemies of the Soviet state not equally considered "tainted" by the U.S. Department of Justice?